Attachment 2

Proposal Evaluation
and
Proposal Preparation Instructions

B539724

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Contents

1 Proposal Evaluation and Selection

1.1 Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation criteria are performance features (the combination of mandatory requirements, target requirements and Offeror proposed features), delivery schedule, feasibility, supplier attributes, and affordability that the University will use to evaluate proposals. (Care should be taken not to confuse use of the word "performance" with performance measurement requirements for the software product requested by the RFP.) The University's assessment of each proposal's evaluation criteria will form the basis for selection.

1.2 Description of Requirement Categories

Mandatory Requirements (designated MR) identified in the Statement of Work are evaluation criteria that are essential to the University requirements, and an Offeror must satisfactorily propose them in order to have its proposal considered responsive.

Target Requirements (designated TR-1) identified in the Statement of Work are evaluation criteria that are highly desired by the University as part of the software, but will not result in a nonresponsive determination if omitted from a proposal.

1.3 Basis for Selection

The University intends to select the Offeror whose proposal satisfies the mandatory requirements and contains the combination of affordability, delivery, nonmandatory evaluation criteria (target requirements and Offeror proposed features), and supplier attributes offering the best overall value to the University. The University will determine the best overall value by comparing differences in nonmandatory evaluation criteria, delivery, and supplier attributes offered with differences in price, striking the most advantageous balance between expected performance and the overall price to the University. Offerors must, therefore, be persuasive in describing the value of their proposed nonmandatory evaluation features and supplier attributes in enhancing the likelihood of successful performance or otherwise best achieving the University's objectives. The University may select the Offeror whose proposal is considered to offer the best overall value compared to proposals with either higher or lower prices. The University's selection may be made on the basis of the initial proposals or the University may elect to negotiate with any or all Offerors.

1.4 Evaluation Factors

The University will evaluate the proposal for performance features, delivery schedule, feasibility, supplier attributes and affordability.

1.4.1 Technical Proposal
The University will evaluate how well the Offeror's technical proposal meets or exceeds the Technical Requirements in the Statement of Work requirements.

1.4.2 Feasibility and Schedule Credibility

The likelihood that the Offeror's software will work as proposed and how well the proposed technical approach aligns with the Offeror's product roadmap

The likelihood that the proposed delivery will be achieved
- The quality and scope of the development plan
- The quality and scope of the project management plan
- The quality and scope of the product test plan
- The quality, scope and technical content of the milestone schedule

1.4.3 Supplier Attributes

The Offeror's experience and past performance in providing similar software solutions
- The quality and scope of the Offeror's performance record
- The Offeror's demonstrated ability to meet schedule and delivery promises
- The Offeror's ability to comply with the required or proposed delivery and performance schedules
- The existence of adequate financial resources to perform the Subcontract
- The Offeror's experience and past performance in providing Open Source solutions
- The individual proposed as the project manager and the level of project management authority delegated by the corporation to that individual

1.4.4 Affordability
- Reasonableness of the total proposed price
- The proposed price compared to the perceived value

2 Proposal Contents

2.1 Mandatory Requirements

The Offeror's proposal shall discuss and demonstrate its ability to meet or exceed each of the mandatory requirements identified in the Statement of Work. Proposals shall include a section by section (numbered) response to the mandatory requirements.

2.2 Nonmandatory Requirements and Supplier Attributes

The Offeror's proposal should identify and discuss any proposed target requirements, other performance features, and supplier attributes that will be important to the Offeror's successful performance and the attainment of the University's objectives. The University has identified the performance features and supplier attributes listed below, which should be discussed in the proposal. The Offeror may identify and discuss other performance features and supplier attributes it believes may be of value to the University. If the University agrees, consideration may be given to them in the evaluation process. In all cases, the University will assess the value of each proposal as submitted.

2.2.1 Performance Features

The Offeror's proposal shall discuss and demonstrate its ability to meet or exceed each of the target requirements identified in the Statement of Work or indicate that it is not proposing a target requirement. Proposals shall include a section by section (numbered) response to the target requirements.

2.2.2 Supplier Attributes

The Offeror shall provide a written description of projects similar in type and complexity as this project that the Offeror has completed recently. These may include public and private contracts. Include technical and business contact points by name, title, address, telephone number and, if available, e-mail address. Offerors are encouraged to include a self-assessment of their performance on these projects including what went well and what did not. Offerors may discuss the latter in the context of a lessons learned scenario. The Offeror may also identify, and provide resumes for, key personnel who will perform the work.

2.3 Price and Delivery Schedule

The proposal shall include a total firm fixed price for the work and a proposed milestone payment schedule. The University requires delivery of the software by June 30, 2006. Following the delivery the University requires an additional two years of software maintenance and support. An alternate completion date may be proposed, which may be subject to negotiation prior to award.

2.4 Small Business Subcontracting Plan

Unless the Offeror is a small business, or the total value of the offer is less than $500,000, the successful Offeror must provide a Small Business Subcontracting Plan, which includes the anticipated total subcontracting amount and the percentage goals and amounts for all of the various small business categories. Refer to the *Small Business Subcontracting Plan* clause referenced in the GENERAL PROVISIONS and the attached Model Small Business Subcontracting Plan for additional information. The approved plan will be made a part of any resulting Subcontract. Failure to submit an acceptable subcontracting plan shall make the Offeror ineligible for award of a Subcontract.

2.5 DUNS Number

The Offeror shall provide its D-U-N-S number as part of the proposal.

2.6 Acceptance of Terms & Conditions

Submission of a proposal shall indicate the Offeror's willingness to accept the terms and conditions of the sample Subcontract and its attachments unless specific exceptions are taken. These terms and conditions have been approved by the DOE/NNSA. Changing them may be time consuming. Failure to accept the terms and conditions may result in significant, unacceptable delays in award of a Subcontract which could cause the University to reject your proposal.

2.7 Technical Proposal

In the Technical Proposal, the Offeror shall describe the proposed software. This shall be written in the form of an integrated narrative **and shall include a point-by-point response to the technical requirements contained in the Statement of Work**.

2.8 Overview of Software

The Offeror shall provide a general overview of the end state of the Parallel Performance Measurement Package (PPMP) software proposed to meet the requirements contained in the Statement of Work. In addition to the specific requirements in the Statement of Work, as part of the overview, the Offeror is invited to present any additional software features that may increase its overall value:

- For software targets, describe additional targets of the software that may increase its value by broadening the scope of applicability – e.g. operating system, distributed applications, system daemons, or aggregate of multiple applications – such as all processes running on a single node.

- For software measurements and reports, describe additional measurements, techniques, and reports that may increase the value of the software. Examples are event-based measurements, exception tracking, or hardware counter threshold functionality.

- Describe any additional platforms, compilers, languages, and operating systems supported to increase availability of the software. In particular, the University has interest in extension to P-series Linux and AIX for the PowerPC architecture. Additionally, there is interest in deployment for the light-weight kernel operating systems used by the ASC Red Storm and BlueGene/L systems.

- Describe any additional partners in the open source effort that may accelerate the addition of features to the software.

- Describe the Offeror's longer term productization or support strategy that contributes to the long term viability of the software.

- Describe the status of source licenses and all relevant intellectual property rights that will result from this effort.

2.9 Current Status

In this section, the Offeror shall describe the current status of the software that they propose to leverage, develop or enhance.

2.10 Project Management

If multiple organizations and/or independent contributors are to be involved in the project, give an overview of how the work will be managed and in particular how multiple organizations and/or independent contributors will be coordinated. In addition, if there are other models for open source project management that have worked well in the past, please include these suggestions as well. Describe how the source code will be managed. Describe opportunities for and expectations of collaboration with the University in the development project.

2.11 Product Development Plan/Roadmap, Milestones and Testing

2.11.1 Product Roadmap and Milestones

The product is to be deployed within two years of Subcontract award. Please describe the development plan/roadmap for this deployment, including project milestones and availability of early deployment alpha and beta products with partial functionality for testing by the University.

While the product requested is to be Open Source, it is important that this not be framed as a pure development effort. It must be coupled with a commercial entity capable of and committed to longer term support of the resulting technology. The proposal should include a specific productization strategy that ensures continuing support.

2.11.2 Product Testing

Describe the testing plan for the proposed software. In particular, what resources are available for testing on the officially supported platforms – and at what scale? What access to additional resources is required to do testing at higher parallel scale? When delivered, product functionality proposed is to be demonstrated by showing performance measurements on three codes supplied by the University. These codes will be made available to the successful Offeror for testing purposes.